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OCI No. 1976-65

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
4 September 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Situation in Kashmir
(Report #9 - As of 4:00 p.m. EDT)

1. No further progress has been reported in the Pakistani drive toward Akhnur since this morning's reports of a five mile advance.

2. In a background briefing by an Indian official, a US Embassy officer was told that the Pakistani attack in the Chhamb area crossed the international boundary between Pakistan and Kashmir, and was not simply a violation of the cease-fire line within Kashmir.

3. Pakistan claims that the Indians used Soviet supplied MIG-21's in one of the aerial engagements earlier today. The Indians probably have six to twelve combat ready MIG's available at their air base near Chandigarh in the Punjab. The aircraft were reportedly flying cover for a strike by Hawker Hunters against the advancing Pakistani forces.

4. Elsewhere in Kashmir clashes near the cease-fire line continue, although apparently on a subdued scale. An Indian official said today that some 700 - 1,000 infiltrators crossed the line into Indian Kashmir during the past two days. He stated that guerrillas operating in the Vale of Kashmir near Srinagar are causing considerable difficulty for Indian security forces by holding up in villages, thereby forcing the Indians to mount full scale attacks in order to dislodge them. The process can be very costly for the regular inhabitants, and adds nothing the stature of the already unpopular Indian troops.

State Department review completed

DIA review(s) completed.

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6. In a conversation with Ambassador Bowles earlier today, Prime Minister Shastri firmly restated the Indian position that any cease-fire agreement must provide for the withdrawal of all Pakistani forces--including the infiltrators. He also stressed the importance of enlarging the UN observer group in Kashmir so that the observers can cover effectively the whole area. Shastri said he hoped that the US would not assume this to be a good time for a discussion of a long-term Kashmir settlement. He indicated that as far as the Indians are concerned any meaningful discussions of Kashmir's status must await a substantial improvement in India's relations with Pakistan--a prospect that remains a long way off.

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